



Early Engagement Request for Information:19000

Market and Product Data for Metal and Alloy Commodities

Background

The Trade Remedies Authority (“TRA”) exists to defend the UK against unfair international trade practices. We investigate whether trade remedies are needed to prevent injury to UK industries caused by unfair trading practices or unforeseen import surges, and we make recommendations on appropriate measures to defend UK economic interests.

The Trade Remedies Authority is an executive non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Department for Business and Trade.

The Department for Business and Trade (“DBT”) has a potential requirement for the provision of Market and Product Data for Metal and Alloy Commodities (CPV Code 72319000 – Data Supply Services).

The Secretary of State for DBT is the contracting authority responsible for meeting this potential requirement.

At this stage, DBT wants to understand the view of the market in terms of its approach to this requirement, key considerations, and costings. Information that it gathers will be used to refine requirements to ensure they are fit for suppliers to deliver against.

The full specification shall be provided with the contract documents and is expected to incorporate procuring market data and production data on specific metals to assist with TRA’s investigations. The questionnaire at Annex A of this document will help TRA to refine its requirements.

Interested suppliers are required to populate the questionnaire and email to commercialddat@businessandtrade.gov.uk by 16th August 2024. Once the deadline has passed, DBT will review the submissions to assist with internal decision making. Additional supplier interaction may be necessary.

It should be noted that this is not a formal invitation to tender. DBT makes no commitment to procure these services and may decide to not progress this any further following engagement with the market. DBT reserves the right to change any information contained within the Request for Information documentation at any time, and potential Suppliers rely upon any information provided entirely at their own risk.



ANNEX A – QUESTIONNAIRE

Supplier name and email address:

No.	TRA Requirement	Compliant (Y/N)	Supplier Response:
1.	Access to market and production prices for various raw metal inputs (e.g., aluminium ingots or iron ore for steel) as well as data to help calculate alloy prices (e.g., aluminium alloy prices to assist in calculating the cost of the conversion process). TRA investigations focus on goods classified under specific 6-, 8- or 10-digit commodity codes		
2.	Ability to search for market and production data by commodity code or through another system that can clearly identify goods being investigated. The relevant data required can be grouped into categories which cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• General media: Required to identify subsidies• Global markets: Required for pricing benchmarks• Industry: Required to check comprehension and coverage• Entity: Required for profit calculations		



No.	TRA Requirement	Compliant (Y/N)	Supplier Response:
3.	Supplier to have appropriate quality assurance processes in place to ensure all data provided is reliable and credible		
4.	Supplier to confirm that any processed information may be published to ensure TRA maintains transparency in its investigations (no raw data will be published only conclusions based on the raw data)		
5.	Ability for multiple users to have access to the Supplier database		
6.	Supplier software should be fully supported, and appropriate controls and processes must be in place to prevent malware or viruses that could compromise any user of the platform		
7.	Supplier software should adhere to NCSC (National Cyber Security Centre) guidelines		
8.	Supplier to confirm whether it is ISO27001 certified		
9.	Supplier to confirm whether it is able to provide an API (Application programming interface) access to data		



No.	TRA Requirement	Compliant (Y/N)	Supplier Response:
10.	Supplier to confirm whether it is able to provide the following data types typically required during a TRA investigation:		
10(a).	International trends in production including forecasts for relevant sectors and raw materials. Relevant sectors in this case would be mainly, but not limited to, steel and aluminium).		
10(b).	Segmentation of markets (including historic information on these developments)		
10(c).	Relevant government policies on specific products (including subsidies, government intervention programmes/ export taxes imposed/ freedom of trade statistics in various countries)		
10(d).	Regulatory restraints or requirements		
10(e).	Raw material inputs and supplies (to create the final product)		
10(f).	Shipping costs		
10(g).	Domestic product prices (both current and historic)		



No.	TRA Requirement	Compliant (Y/N)	Supplier Response:
10(h).	National and international benchmark prices for relevant inputs		
10(i).	Prices and volumes of imports and exports of metals from countries across ALL continents. TRA is particularly keen to receive information on prices from Asia, including China, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan etc.		
10(j).	Global energy prices (electricity / gas)		
10(k).	Prices for exports and imports to and from the UK to and from global countries		
10(l).	Any information regarding stocks/stockpiling (relevant to global trade shocks, such as the pandemic stockpiling)		
10(m).	Profit margins, market size, production volume and capacity globally		
10(n).	Trade remedy measures against these commodities in other countries		
10(o).	Forecast for construction and other industries that use these commodities		



No.	TRA Requirement	Compliant (Y/N)	Supplier Response:
10(p).	Information relating to the end users of the commodities (metals)		
10(q).	Information on average wages in these sectors in the UK		
10(r).	Information on unemployment in the UK		
10(s).	Information on these industries in the UK e.g., level of competitiveness, estimates of market share, turnover, prices, industry growth, the primary sectors that this industry feeds into e.g., is it construction/food/cars.		
10(t).	Economic significance of these industries in the UK (referring primarily to turnover, employment, gross value added).		
10(u).	Any data on factors affecting raw material inputs in different countries across the globe such as China, Russia etc.		
10(v).	Any data on factors affecting energy prices in different countries		
10(w).	Any data on factors affecting labour markets in different countries		



No.	TRA Requirement	Compliant (Y/N)	Supplier Response:
10(x).	A minimum of 4 years of historic data will be required for each data type identified in items 10(a) to 10(w) above (there is no requirement for forecasting data)		
11.	Are you able to offer a scalable licensing / subscription pricing model, based on:		
11(a)	a defined number of named / concurrent users (provide details)		
11(b)	a flexible model where data can be requested and paid for on an ad-hoc basis (provide details)		